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	POLICY ON DO NOT RESUSCITATE	Date: 06-01-2017
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PREPARED BY: Dy. Medical Superintendent		APPROVED BY: Chief Executive Officer

1.0 Purpose:

To guide staff in decision-making whenever a patient and /or family wishes to withhold resuscitative services and forgo or withdraw resuscitative measures, within the Indian legal framework.

2.0 Scope:

Hospital wide


3.0 Definition & Abbreviation:

3.1 Brain Dead:

As per the Organ Transplantation Act, brain death is defined as:

- 1) Absence of corneal reflex.
- 2) Absence of spontaneous respiratory movements
- 3) Absence of pupillary reflex
- 4) Absence of Doll's eye movement.
- 5) Positive modified apnea test
- 6) Metabolic parameters are normal
- 7) Absence of cerebral blood flow on Trans Cranial Doppler.
- 8) Positive caloric test.

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A patient is declared dead only after examination by:

- Medical Administrator In charge of the hospital
- Authorized Specialist (Physician / Intensivist)
- Neurologist Neurosurgeon
- Medical Officer Treating the patient (Treating physician)

The above mentioned shall reassess the patient twice, with a time gap of minimum of 6 hours between the assessments.

3.2 DNR:

Do Not Resuscitate.


3.3 Life sustaining treatments:

Usually but not limited to, artificial ventilation, invasive airway access, invasive vascular access, ionotrope medication, antibiotics and intravenous infusions, etc., are considered Life Sustaining Treatments.

4.0 Policy:

- 4.1** As per the Indian law, no patient can be denied any form of treatment. This includes Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Hence, all patients shall receive maximum effort CPR in case of a Cardio-Pulmonary Arrest.

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4.2 A DNR order shall be used only for patients identified as brain dead. Brain death shall be declared only according to strict criteria as per hospital policy.

4.3 The procedure for a DNR order in these patients' identified and certified as brain dead or terminally ill shall be according to strict criteria as per hospital policy.

The procedure for a DNR order in these patients shall follow the steps –

4.3.1 Patients shall be declared brain dead by applying the Brain Death Criteria.

4.3.2 The Treating Physician shall be responsible for discussing DNR issues with the family members with the help of the medical social worker if required.

4.4 Instances where the family opts for DNR for their patient, the Treating Physician with due respect to the patient, discusses with the family regarding the illegality of their wish.

4.5 Terminally ill patients are otherwise cared as per protocol.

4.6 Indian Law likewise does not allow withholding of life sustaining treatment for any patients. Hence, all patients are to be given maximum medical care as per the Law of the Land.

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